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DVD Release: The Record 2010 Miami Skinny-dip

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MEDIA RELEASE– Visit the **PRESS ROOM** at www.SFFB.com –

Since 1991, the clothing-optional beach area at Haulover Park in South Florida has been a mecca for nudists, naturists, skinny-dippers, and those just adverse to tan lines. On July 10th, 2010, thousands were on hand during the Guinness World Record™ skinny-dip. This event, simultaneously occurring throughout North America, was sponsored by the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR). Most locations were nudist resorts, but also included were a number of well-known clothing-optional beaches, such as Gunnison Beach in New Jersey and Wreck Beach in Vancouver, BC.

At the 3 PM deadline, Haulover's contingent joined a total of 14,110 skinny-dippers at more than 100 locations, waving their arms and splashing happily in the surf. The official count for Haulover Beach was 748. Those were the people who registered—a requirement to be counted in the World Record—but it was estimated the actual beach crowd numbered several thousand.

"A few thousand people on a good weekend day really isn't unusual for Haulover," remarks Richard Mason, president of South Florida Free Beaches (SFFB), the group that established the clothing-optional area, and now provides a volunteer Beach Ambassador program. "The Park Department's own data show the number of Haulover visitors increased almost 100% from 1991 to 1994, because of the clothing-optional beach—and we get a lot of tourists who come down each year solely because of this beach. It's a big plus for the hospitality industry."

Accepted and designated clothing-optional beaches are unusual in the US, though Haulover's naturist section is now 19 years old. European countries like Spain, France, and Germany boast hundreds of such public naturist beaches. Even tiny Holland has more than a hundred such sites!

Haulover Park is a Miami-Dade County regional park. Contrary to what some may think, nudity is not universally illegal under Florida law, especially absent lewd behavior and intent. "The fact that we've been around for nineteen years, wedged between two very upscale beach communities, with virtually no complaints, just shows there really is no problem with a nude beach," comments Norma Mitchell, another SFFB member. "Nudity isn't mandatory, and if you really want to wear a bathing suit, you can. We get groups where some people go nude, and others wear suits. And only the northern third of the beach is a designated naturist area—signs are posted to avoid confusion—so you won't see nudity in the rest of the park."

As Haulover is one of America's premier clothing-optional beaches, the 2010 skinny-dip was attended by AANR's executive director, Erich Schuttauf, and by Nicky Hoffman Lee, managing director of the Naturist Society, a national naturist organization based in Oshkosh, WI.

The skinny-dip was documented in a 30-minute DVD that is available at www.sffb.com. There is a one-minute preview on the web site. The video also includes an introduction to Haulover for new visitors, a history of the establishment and development of the clothing-optional section, and interviews with naturist leaders and participants in the skinny-dip.

